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LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1973 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF ALGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a message addressed to you from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria.

"During the night of 9-10 April 1973 yet another serious act of aggression was perpetrated by Israeli armed forces against Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. These flagrant and repeated violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon, a country devoted to peace and respect for its international obligations, constitute a permanent threat to peace and security in the Middle East and throughout the world. The policy of escalation being followed by the Tel-Aviv authorities is intended to stir up the conflict in the Middle East for the purpose of imposing a climate of terror and permanent tension and imposing their will on the Arab countries and the Palestinian people. Israel, strong as a result of support from its powerful allies, is increasing its aggressive potential with the most sophisticated armaments; it is consolidating and accelerating its colonization of the occupied Arab territories in violation of the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force. The Council has, on several occasions, condemned the acts of aggression committed by Israel in the Middle East, and in particular against Lebanon. In a decision, adopted unanimously, the Security Council stated clearly and firmly that it condemned Israel for its premeditated military action in violation of its obligations under the Charter and the cease-fire resolutions. The resolution stated that the Council issued a solemn warning to Israel that if such acts were to be repeated, the Council would have to consider further steps to give effect to its decisions (resolution 262 (1968)). Scorning the most solemn warnings of the highest organ of the United Nations which bears primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, Israel has continued to commit aggression against the Arab countries and to violate all the principles of the Charter and all the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. There is no doubt at all that this powerlessness of the United Nations, which certain western Powers seem to wish to perpetuate, encourages the policy of terrorism and aggression which Israel intends to impose in this region of the world. The United Nations, which bears a very special responsibility in the tragedy of the Palestinian people and the countries in the Middle East which for several decades have been faced with permanent Israeli expansionism and aggression, can no longer evade its responsibilities. Under your high authority and in your double capacity

as current President of the Security Council and distinguished representative of Peru, the Council, if it were to act, should be able to ensure that its own decisions are respected and to apply the relevant provisions of the Charter that could bring an end to the aggression and thus lead the Security Council to accept its primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. You will agree, Mr. President, that it is quite clear that if a just and lasting peace is to be established in a region that has suffered for so long, the international community must take all possible measures to restore to the Palestinian people their legitimate national rights in their entirety and to require the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces of aggression. Highest consideration.  
Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA."

I should be glad if you would have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Abdellatif RAHAL  
Permanent Representative